



## H1N1 Virus Partner Briefing

Influenza A (H1N1) Virus

May 13th, 2009 1:30 PM

**Rhode Island:** No change in cases, surveillance continues with no change in influenza-like illness cases

**New England Report** All New England states reporting confirmed cases.

**National Report:** CDC reports 44 states with 3,009 confirmed cases, three deaths

**International Report:** WHO reports 33 countries have officially reported 5,728 cases of influenza A (H1N1) infection

### Department of Health (HEALTH) Recent Web Postings:

#### Guidance for Clinicians Managing Influenza Like Illness in Children

<http://www.health.ri.gov/pandemicflu/swineflu/Advisory/PediatricGuidance051209.pdf>

### Influenza and the youth population:

From time to time we will highlight segments of the population to keep you informed about how to prevent influenza and reduce the spread of influenza:

**Staying out of school** Students who develop influenza-like illness (fever with either cough or sore throat) should stay home from school/ their childcare facility for 7 days after the onset of illness or at least 24 hours after symptoms have resolved, whichever is longer. This differs from the usual recommendation to stay home for 24 hours after the symptoms are gone including 24 hours with no fever.

**Transmission** The virus appears to be spreading among children and young adults. Two thirds (2/3) of all cases are in kids less than 18 years old. Focus should continue to be on prevention strategies of transmission such as washing hands (10-15 seconds or long enough for children to sing the "Happy Birthday" song), cough and sneeze into their elbow, and staying home from school if sick and away from people who are sick.

**Young Children and the H1N1 Virus** Young children are less likely to have typical influenza symptoms (e.g., fever and cough) and infants may present for medical care with fever and lethargy, and may not have cough or other respiratory symptoms or signs.

**Educational materials** Appropriate health prevention materials are available for a variety of ages in multiple languages. <http://www.health.ri.gov/pandemicflu/swineflu/schools.php>

### For further information go to:

- 401-222-8022 H1N1 Information Line open weekdays (8:30am- 4:30pm)
- HEALTH at <http://www.health.ri.gov>
- CDC at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>
- WHO at <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>
- **Twitter Address:** RIDeptHealth (<http://www.twitter.com/rideptofhealth>)
- For hearing-impaired call, RI Relay 711 TTY